



# Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

## Accomplishments and Challenges 2012



# 2012 Scope of Tasks

- Wetlands and coastal riparian habitats restoration
- Green neighborhoods programs
- Marine habitats protection and restoration
- Outreach
- Planning and policy development

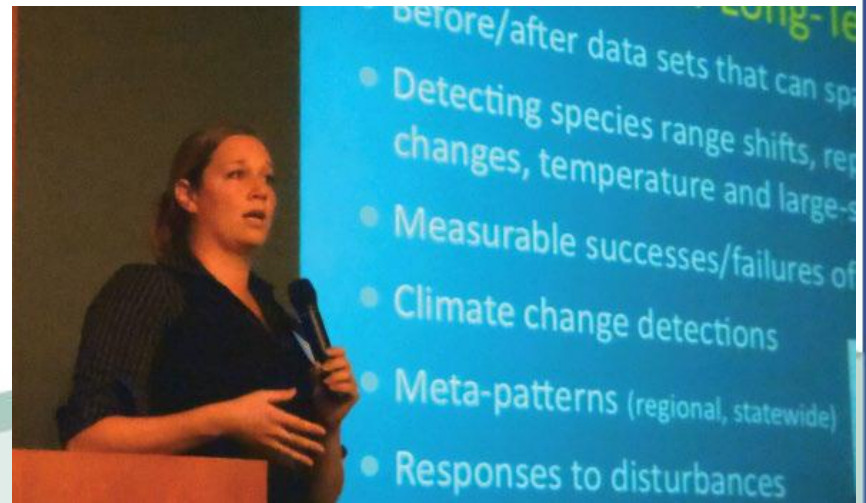


- Ballona Wetlands restoration project enters the environmental planning stages
- Malibu Lagoon restoration is underway!





## ■ The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wetland Research Symposium







- Ballona Wetlands monitoring and outreach – engaging local residents and students





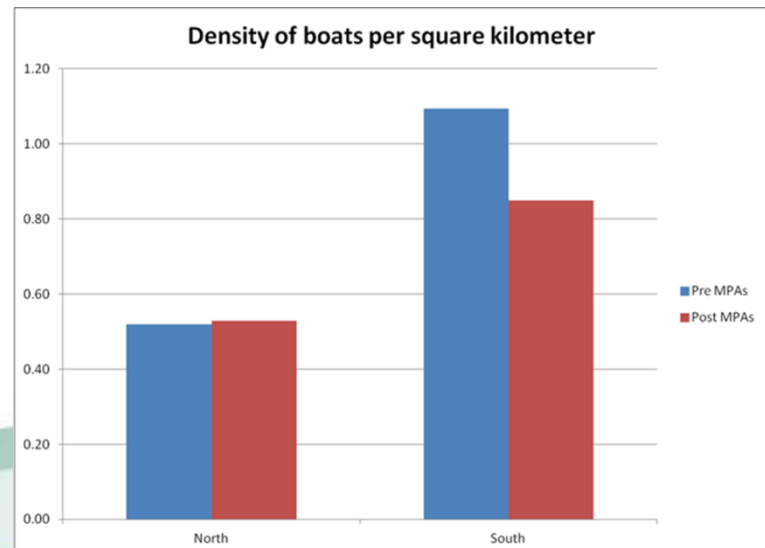
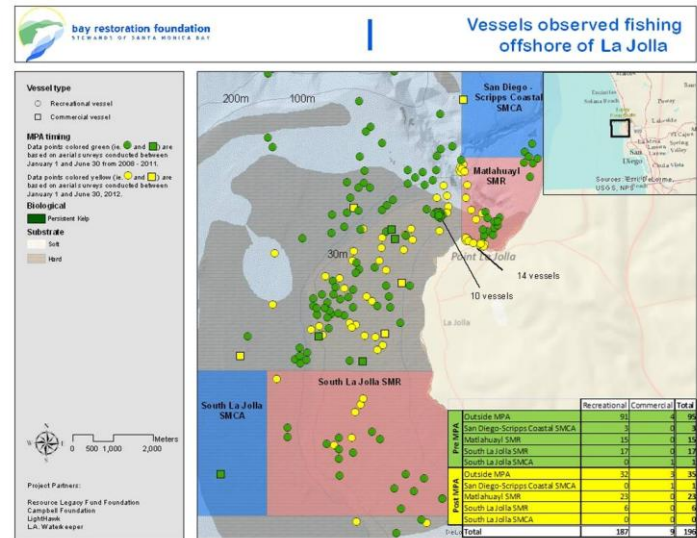
# Bond-funded LID Projects

- City of Torrance storm water detention basin
- Manhattan Beach green belt park project
- City of Inglewood trash capturing devices installation
- City of Los Angeles University Park Rain Gardens
- City of Santa Monica In-line Storm Drain Treatment and Infiltration Pilot project
- City of Calabasas Catch Basin Trash Inserts
- County of Los Angeles Oxford Basin enhancement project.





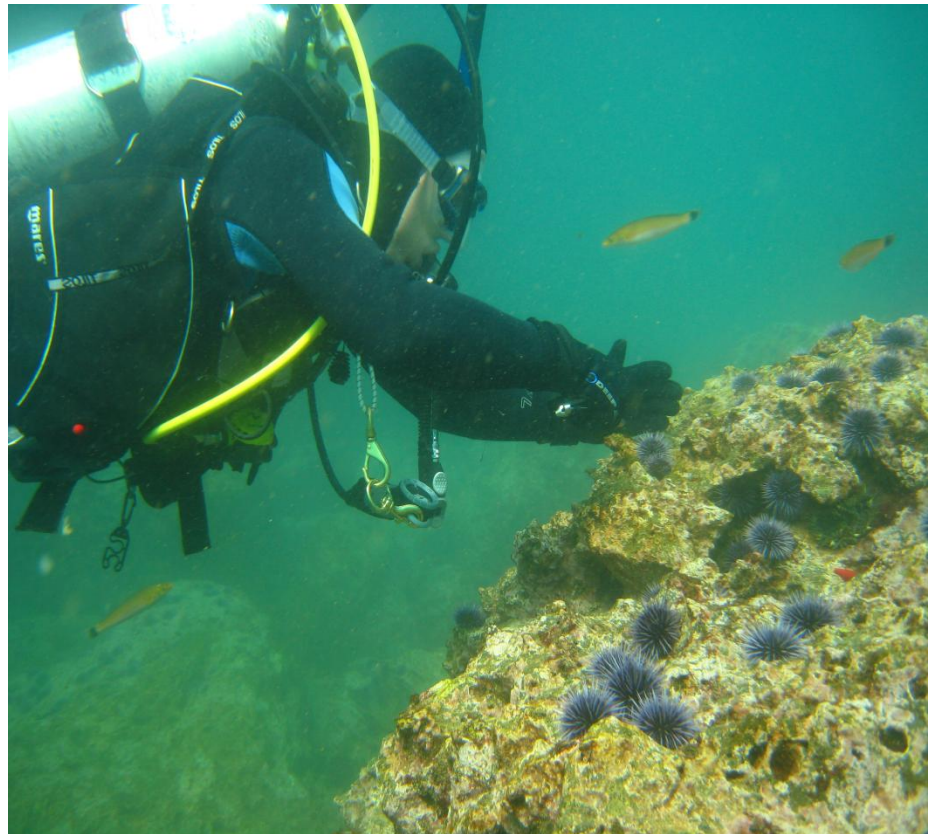
- LightHawk aerial survey to map the boats operating in coastal waters in Southern California







- Kelp restoration – continuing and expanding
- Abalone and halibut research – Applying scientific knowledge to help recovery of these iconic species







# Public Outreach

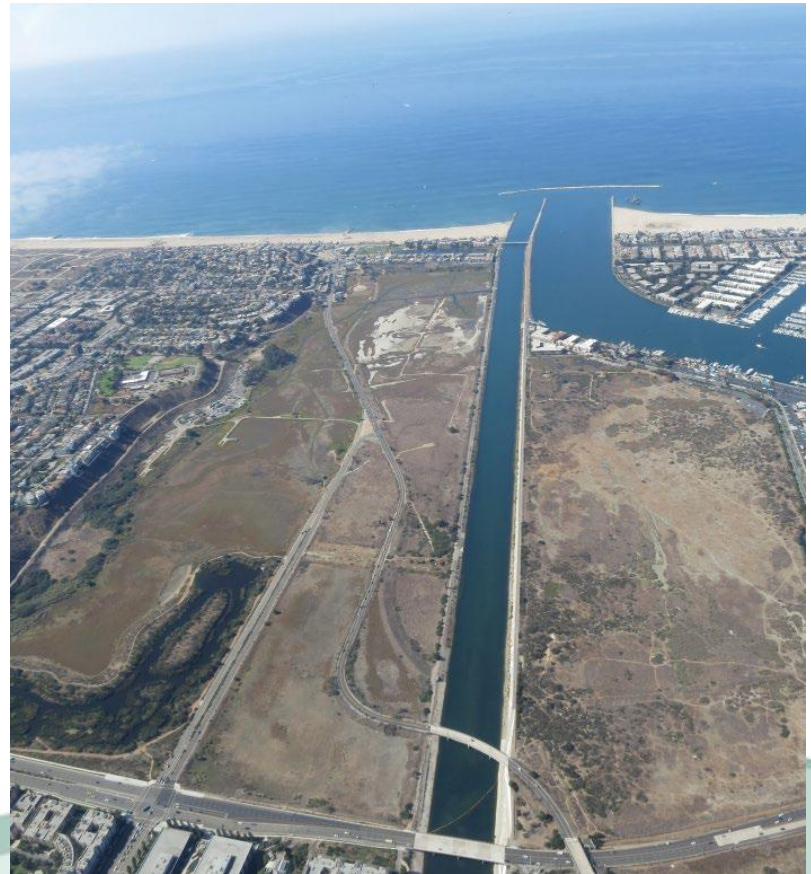
- Boater Education Program
- Restaurant Certification Program





# Technical Studies

- Ballona Watershed Hydrology Study
- Wetlands Climate Change Impacts Study





# Tasks recommended by WAC

- Compilation and outreach of cost-benefit information on storm water pollution reduction – [on hold pending the MS4 permit timeline](#)
- Further promote the Clean Bay Restaurant certification Program – [in progress](#)
- Promote outreach and monitoring of beach ecology – [in progress](#)
- Disseminate fish die-off and HAB information – [on hold due to loss of TAC members](#)
- Explore new rocky reef restoration with the use of natural material – [in progress through exploring the use of Rindge dam demolition material](#)
- Enhance boater education program – [in progress](#)
- Explore formation of monitoring coalition – [in progress with obstacles](#)
- Improve BRP progress tracking and reporting – [in progress through the updating process.](#)





# Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan Update

2008–2013

Watershed Advisory Council Meeting

February 13, 2013



# Background

- 1995 first Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) approved by the US EPA
  - » Identified 250 actions
  - » 74 priority actions
  - » Partially updated in 2002
- Progress reports:
  - » State of the Bay Report published in 1998, 2004, and 2010
  - » BRP Checkup report completed in 2008
- 2008 first major BRP update completed
  - » 14 Goals in 3 Priority Areas
  - » 60 Objectives
  - » 170 Milestones



# 2008 BRP

- Plan Organization - Three Key Priority Areas:
  - » Water Quality
  - » Natural Resources
  - » Benefits and Values to People





# Plan Organization

Plan's structure:

- Priority Areas
  - » Overarching Goals
    - Specific Actionable Objectives
      - Action Items/Milestones



# The 2008 BRP Update

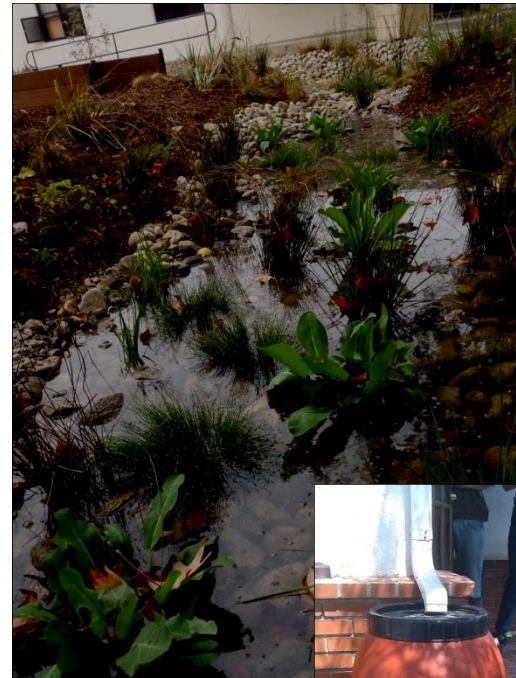
## I. Water Quality

- Goal # 1: Improve water quality through treatment or elimination of pollutant discharges regulated under the current federal and state regulatory framework
- Goal # 2: Improve water quality through pollution prevention and source control
- Goal #3: Address Potential Impacts of Emerging Contaminants



# Water Quality

- Help to achieve TMDL compliance
- Improve storm water quality through LID and green infrastructure
- Reduce trash through public education and restricting the use of plastic products etc.
- Eliminate pollution from septic systems
- Eliminate impacts of water intake from coastal power plants
- Address potential impacts of emerging contaminants







# The 2008 BRP Update

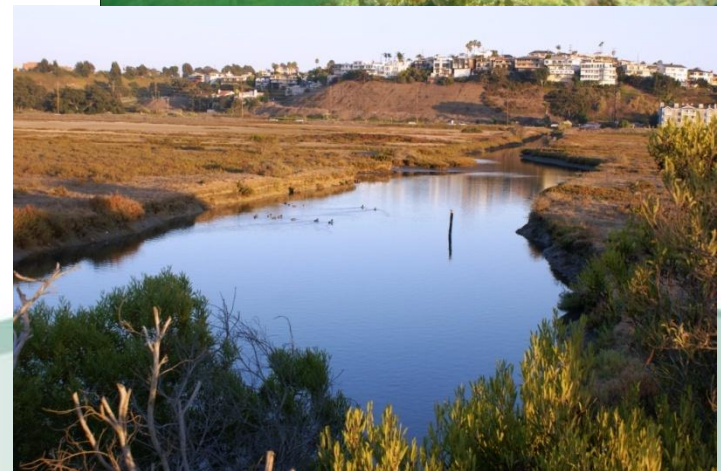
## II. Natural Resources

- Goal #4: Create/ support policies and programs to protect natural resources
- Goal #5: Acquire land for preservation of habitat and ecological services
- Goal #6: Manage invasive species
- Goal #7: Restore wetlands, streams and riparian zones
- Goal #8: Restore coastal bluffs, dunes, and sandy beaches
- Goal #9: Restore intertidal and subtidal habitats
- Goal #10: Protect and restore open ocean and deep water habitats



# Natural Resources

- Establish Marine Protected Areas
- Restore wetlands and streams
- Restore coastal bluffs, dunes and sandy beaches
- Restore intertidal and subtidal (kelp) habitats
- Protect and restore open and deep ocean habitats
- Acquire lands for open space/habitat protection
- Manage invasive species





# The 2008 BRP Update

## III. Benefits and Values to People

- Goal #11: Protect Public Health
- Goal #12: Maintain/increase natural flood protection through ecologically functioning floodplains and wetlands
- Goal #13: Increase public access to beaches and open space
- Goal #14: Conserve water and increase local water supply





# Benefits and Values to Humans

- Protect public health
  - » Achieve zero beach closure and posting
  - » Communicate seafood consumption risk to the public
- Maintain/increase natural flood protection through ecologically functioning infiltration, floodplains and wetlands
- Increase public access to beaches and open space.
- Conserve water and increase local water supply





# Status of BRP Implementation 2008-2012

- » 31 milestones achieved
- » 114 milestones still in progress
- » 25 milestones uninitiated



# Accomplishments

## Water Quality

- » State policy established to phase out once-through cooling of coastal power generation stations
- » New municipal storm water permit adopted with more requirements/incentives for LID implementation
- » County-wide storm water funding initiative developed
- » Septic prohibition enacted for the Malibu Civic Center area
- » Malibu Legacy Park project completed



# Accomplishments

## ■ Natural Resources

- » Marine Protected Areas established in Santa Monica Bay
- » Historical ecology and hydrology studies for the Ballona Creek watershed completed.
- » Land in Corral Canyon area acquired for habitat protection
- » CEQA/NEPA process for Ballona Wetlands restoration started
- » Malibu Lagoon restoration near completion
- » Oxford Basin restoration is moving forward
- » More kelp habitats restored





# Accomplishments

## ■ Benefits and Values to Humans

- » More dry-weather diversion projects implemented
- » New fish consumption advisory issued and new peer signage installed
- » Ballona Creek Greenway plan completed and new greenway projects implemented



## Remaining and New Challenges

- TMDL and MS4 permit implementation/compliance
- Significant reduction in storm water (wet-weather) pollution
- Implementation of green solution/LID approach
- Septic system management
- Emerging contaminants



## Remaining and New Challenges

- Wetland and stream restoration
- MPA enforcement and monitoring
- Intertidal and nearshore habitats protection
- Decline of fishery resources
- Control of invasive species
- Remediation of historical DDT contamination



# Remaining and New Challenges

- Reliable pathogen indicators
- Open space in urbanized areas and open space access
- Climate change adaptation





# Your Input is Needed

- Receive and incorporate input from WAC
- Revise the BRP and solicit public comments
- Develop final draft for approval by the Governing Board



# Breakout Session

- Group 1 – Water Quality
- Group 2 – Natural Resources
- Group 3 – Benefits and Values to Humans